

## COLUMBIA TO TEACH FARMING

### HOPES TO RAISE \$2,000,000 FOR SUCH A SCHOOL.

Would Buy 1,000 Acres of Land Near New York for Practical Farm-Lectures From Oct. 1 to April 1—Undeveloped Property Between Here and Albany.

Columbia University is considering a step that may mean much toward either reducing the present high cost of living in New York or else keeping it from jumping up at the rate that statisticians and our grocers' and butchers' bills tell us has been the case during the last ten years.

The plan is for the university to turn out full fledged, up to date farmers fully equipped to deal with the problems that agriculture in New York State now presents; to give them not only instruction in such of the sciences as go to make up the education of a skilled modern agriculturist but to develop knowledge by actual experience in farming and fit pupils to grapple with any difficulty that the soil, crops and pests may present.

For some time past Dr. C. C. Curtis, head of the department of botany; Dean Goetz of the school of mines and engineering; and George T. Powell, an expert agriculturist, have been working on plans and a course of study, and now, it is said, all that prevents the Columbia University School of Agriculture from starting is the lack of money. Those who are working on the plans estimate that \$2,000,000 will be required and are hopeful that the sum will soon be raised.

The need for such a school is pointed out in this explanation of the committee:

Through wasteful and uneconomic methods of raising much of the soil of our country has become so depleted as to seriously interfere with our future national growth and prosperity. The social life and activity of rural districts have steadily declined and much of the sturdy and vigorous life of the farm has been diverted to and lost in the city.

In many townships of New York State more than one-half of the farms are for sale because of the desertion of these farms by the young people and the difficulty of obtaining labor. In one well known town but three houses from New York city there were shipped at one time to the New York market annually over 100 carloads of potatoes, but in recent years potatoes have been imported by the carload from Idaho with the high cost of transportation added. Not only are the rural interests of New York State suffering from these uneconomic conditions, but New York city, with its millions of population, is actually affected by the high cost of many food products that should be grown on nearby territory.

Coupled with this problem of the decadence of rural production and activity is that of the overcrowding of the city. The millions of people of the metropolitan district have opportunities for preparation in almost every line of industrial, commercial and professional calling but practically none for securing a training in agriculture. There is an existing need for a proper training that would insure successful careers to those who wish to turn to country life.

The increasing congestion of the city is one of the most serious problems of to-day and one that is every day increasing. The cost of many food products has increased over 100 per cent, while others that are essential to health must be raised as luxuries. Owing to high prices as rates are imported from foreign countries, the shipments of potatoes are finding their way into the New York market from England. One of the great problems of the future is the training of men as to utilize the undeveloped sections of the country as to handle in a scientific manner the cultivated portions that food supplies may be produced with profit in greater abundance and at less cost to the consumer.

The committee believes that the financial returns for these properly trained agriculturists will be so large that many persons who now struggle along on small salaries in the city may feel impelled to study practical farming in the opportunity is presented to them.

The course as planned by the committee is designed to cover two years. Classroom instruction will be given only from October 1 to April 1, the remainder of the year being devoted to the field. Pupils will be shown in greenhouses and gardens how to plant and grow fruits, flowers and vegetables, and the principles and every detail of farm operation will be shown in the open. Methods of soil requirements and improvements, the economic employment of labor, country income and cost of production in grain growing, grass culture, the production of fruit and vegetables, milk, butter and poultry will be taught on the farm itself and by actual practice. During the winter it is planned that courses shall be open to men and women who wish to take up theoretical instruction in agriculture, horticulture, dairying and animal husbandry.

For the purposes of the school the committee thinks that it will be necessary to acquire at least 1,000 acres of land within a reasonable distance of New York city, and to purchase this, erect buildings and stock and equip the institution as a permanent school. Such a plan will require about \$1,500,000. After the work has been organized and is in running order it is believed that the income from the farm will be sufficient to meet the natural expenses and growth of the work.

An important feature of the work of an agricultural school will be extension teaching, which was explained by Mr. Powell yesterday.

"Farming between here and Albany, in what I consider the most valuable land of the United States, is in need," said Mr. Powell, "and the plan calls for one farmer in each of the ten counties lying along the Hudson to furnish land and labor for the school. The farmer would have to let his work be open to his neighbors, so that they could see what was being done and be in a position to profit from it. There would be public days on which the farmers of the entire county could not only come and inspect methods but receive the same as well. Results would be published in the local papers.

"The average agricultural college," Mr. Powell continued, "is not so situated as to be able to do the best work. This school of Columbia's would be practically independent school with only one course, and its plan would be to give a man a practical up to date farmer within two years. Unless we get a stronger type of men handling our land the country will suffer from the dearth of cheap supplies. The soil depletion is something that is very depressing in its effects upon the great consuming class. The ordinary farmer is doing comparatively few people. There is only one in this big State, and that is at Ithaca. It is overcrowded.

There are many persons in New York city who would like to qualify themselves for taking care of a piece of land. I had the other day, for instance, a letter from the widow of a physician who wanted to take a course in horticulture and flower culture in order to earn a living. This school would offer great opportunities for women who have to be self-supporting. I know of several women who went out to California for their health several years ago. They saw that seed growing offered an opportunity of making money, so they got some land out there and went into the business. They are now independent.

The proposed school would be bound to take out of the city a class of persons who are receiving very moderate incomes and who feel that their work is not permanent. Clerks with families have come to me—as their families have grown their

## ROBBED TRAINS IN TRANSIT

### SWUNG ROPE LADDERS FROM ROOFS AND PITCHED OUT LOOT.

\$40,000 Worth of Freight Stolen—Detectives Get Four Men Who They Say Had a Hand in It and Recover Several Thousand Cigars From a Safe.

Four men were taken to the Yorkville police court yesterday in connection with freight train robberies which entailed an estimated loss of \$40,000 worth of goods in transit. The robberies have been going on for more than a year and nearly every time the thieves escaped.

Their mode of working was to board a freight train and by a rope ladder to let themselves down from the roof of a car to a door while the train was in motion. Then they would break open the door and pitch the goods out.

Balls of silk, laces, shoes, cigars and other property sent from this city to the West disappeared.

One such robbery took place on a freight train on the Michigan Central Railroad several months ago near Detroit. Some silk goods and 6,000 good cigars were part of the property taken. The cigars were sent by Bondy & Lederer, whose office is at First Avenue and Seventieth street, this city, to a store in Houghton, Wis.

Detective Holstein of the New York Central Railroad worked on the case and on Wednesday last he and Detectives Miley, McNulty, Brennan and Rafis of Police Headquarters went to the Sports Club at 28 St. Mark's place and got no answer. Investigation showed that there were no such firms. Then he reported the matter to Headquarters.

Feldman appeared at his office late yesterday and was arrested there. He told the police that the transactions complained of by Blumer were legitimate, but he might have been better business acumen on his part but that Blumer should have been on the lookout.

PEACE REIGNS IN BROOKLYN.

Former Warring Democratic Leaders Sit Down to Harmony Dinner.

The Kings County Democratic Party, which was organized by the factional foes of the late Senator McCarren a few years ago and which since his death has come into the regular fold, held its annual dinner last night at the Imperial.

Assembled around the board in restored harmony were the faithful supporters of the late Senator and the men who had strenuously fought his leadership. John H. McCooey, McCarren's successor, sat next to Chairman George V. S. Williams and was one of the speakers.

Justice-elect Isaac M. Kapper also spoke and his address was referred to grand opportunities opening up before the reunited Democracy of Kings county.

The hard job of parceling out the Register, County Clerk and Coroner, all of which will be in Democratic control after the close of the year, has not yet been taken up. Mr. McCooey held daily conferences with the incoming incumbents of these offices and care will be taken in the distribution of the jobs to avoid any party leaning.

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Movement Started in Flushing That Is Meant to Spread.

A number of women of Flushing, Queens, held a meeting in the Macdonald mansion, 165 Jamaica avenue, last night and started a woman's suffrage movement which is meant to affect the entire borough. Miss Eliza Macdonald, who is well known as a worker among women's clubs in this country, presided and explained to the gathering what it is planned to do. Miss Macdonald said that a number of mass meetings will be held in the near future and that all those present to assist in the work.

Among those who are interested in the movement are Mrs. Dan C. Beard and Miss Beard, Joseph Fitch, James W. Dixon, Mrs. E. J. Moore, Dr. Margaret M. York, Miss Eleanor P. Clarke, Mrs. Florence Gill, Mrs. F. H. Hubbard, Mrs. J. H. Eob and Mrs. F. H. Mead.

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## BAD CHECKS FOR PRONY BILLS.

Money Broker Says His Friend Feldman Trimmed Him of \$17,500—Arrested.

Joseph Feldman, 32 years old, who described himself as a merchant living at 47 West Twenty-seventh street, was arrested yesterday charged with obtaining \$17,500 on worthless checks from Harry Blumer, a money broker at 1285 Broadway.

Feldman had an office in the same building with the money broker. He manufactured price slips for cigar boxes. He became acquainted with Blumer last summer and explained to him, according to the broker, that he was putting on the market a patent cigar box, which was having a phenomenal sale. He wished to have his friend the broker discount some bills for him on a 5 per cent. basis.

Blumer said he agreed to this and Feldman began to bring bills to him. At first they were for small amounts and for sixty and ninety days. They were paid promptly, generally by check. Gradually the bills grew in size and finally Blumer took one for \$500.

Then some of the checks which he had received in payment of the bills began to come back marked "N. O." Whenever this happened Feldman made good the sum promptly and the broker's confidence in his friend increased. The police say these checks were made good out of the money which the broker had advanced to him on other bills.

When the last batch of checks arrived a month ago and Blumer sent them to banks to be cashed they all came back marked "no account." Blumer began to be suspicious but his friend Feldman was not to be found. He telegraphed to the broker by which check he was cashed and got no answer. Investigation showed that there were no such firms. Then he reported the matter to Headquarters.

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## ALL CARS TRANSFER TO Bloomingdale's

Lexington to 3d Ave. 59th to 60th Street

### By the Forelock



take Father Time if you would have the best of the Christmas gift picking. The store of "certain satisfaction"—Bloomingdale's—will be well prepared right up to the very edge of the gladness morning to supply your every demand and requirement—but for your own convenience and comfort come in the early hours of the morning if you possibly can.

Women's Watches, 14k. solid gold, O size, open face with jeweled Elgin movements. Regularly \$16.50, at..... **\$13.95**

Women's Watches, 14k. solid gold, O size, hunting case, hand engraved, engine turned or plain polished, fitted with 7 jeweled Waltham or Elgin movements. Regularly \$22. Special at..... **\$16.50**

Men's and Women's Watches, gold filled hunting case, hand engraved, engine turned or plain polished. Fully guaranteed for 20 years. Fitted with 7 jeweled Waltham or Elgin movements. Regularly \$15.00. Special at..... **\$10.95**

Men's Watches, the celebrated P. S. Bartlett make, world renowned, 17 jeweled movements, guaranteed absolutely correct timepiece, in plain polished, gold filled, open face cases, guaranteed for 20 years. Regularly \$22.00. Special at..... **\$16.75**

Bloomingdale's, Lex. to 3d Ave., 59th to 60th St.

## TAX MAY BE LONG DEFERRED.

State Cannot Collect on Marshall Field Bequests Till It Is Known Who Gets Them.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—Judge Lewis Rinker of the County Court to-day decided that the State cannot collect inheritance tax on approximately \$65,000 of the estate left by the late Marshall Field until it can be determined to whom the bequests will eventually be paid.

This may mean a delay of anywhere from one hour to almost forty years, depending on the length of the lives of the heirs of the grandsons.

The court found that the provisions of the will make it impossible to tell at this time to whom the bequests will be paid. The judge made it clear that no matter how long the tax is delayed the State will surely receive its just share of the estate.

Judge Rinker also decided that the bequest of \$8,000,000 to the Field Columbian Museum trustees cannot be taxed at this time. If it is paid to the trustees within the time specified in the will it is not taxable. If it reverts to the estate then it can be taxed. He also held that the \$1,000,000 paid to Mrs. Della Caton Field, widow of Marshall Field, by an anti-nuptial agreement is not taxable.

WRECK DEAD NOW 13.

R. H. Russell's Condition Reported Favorable at Greenboro Hospital.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Dec. 16.—The death of Henry L. Stribling of Atlanta in St. Leo's Hospital at Greenboro this morning raises the number of deaths due to the wreck of Southern train No. 11, yesterday, to thirteen.

F. Smith of Spencer, N. C., is probably fatally injured. Of the twenty-four others injured all will probably recover.

The condition of R. H. Russell, the companion of George Gould, was reported as favorable to-day. Mr. Russell is suffering from a fracture of the collarbone and severe bruises on his body.

The escape of Mr. Gould, his son Jay and Mr. Russell from death was remarkable. Mr. Gould provided egress by knocking out a window with a shotgun after the car had plunged to the ground below the trestle. The three crawled through the opening, and clad in night attire sat upon the roof of the car for an hour and a half until help arrived and they were rescued.

Seismograph Station for Brooklyn.

Within a month or so the new Catholic College on Crown Heights, on the site of the old penitentiary, will have a fully equipped earthquake recording station, as one of the chain of stations established by the Jesuit Order throughout the United States. The instruments, which are to arrive in a few days, will be set up on special foundations near the college and will be under the constant observation of an expert geologist of the faculty.

Another Portable School for the Bronx.

C. B. J. Snyder, chief architect of the Department of Education, has filed plans with Building Superintendent Rev. John of the Bronx for a portable school, with a frontage of twenty-five feet and thirty-one feet deep, to be erected by the city on Eastern Boulevard south of Willow lane for the children of the recently settled section beyond Hunt's Point near Long Island Sound. It is to cost \$800.

Leader Rush Re-elected.

At the annual meeting held last night of the Tammany Hall general committee of the Twenty-ninth Assembly district, Thomas E. Rush was re-elected leader. Burham Moffatt was elected chairman of the general committee and the following were the vice-chairmen named: Herbert H. Lehman, William Temple Emmet, George Ethel, Jr., John J. Quinlan and Jesse I. Strauss.

Intestate Repeater Sentenced.

John J. Tobin, a New Yorker, who admitted that he went to Hudson county, New Jersey, to vote illegally as many times as he could, was sentenced yesterday by County Judge Carey in Jersey City to six months imprisonment in the county penitentiary for false registration. He recently gave the Court some valuable tips about the interstate operation of repeaters. In passing sentence Judge Carey told him the Court intends to make use of some of the facts embodied in his confession.

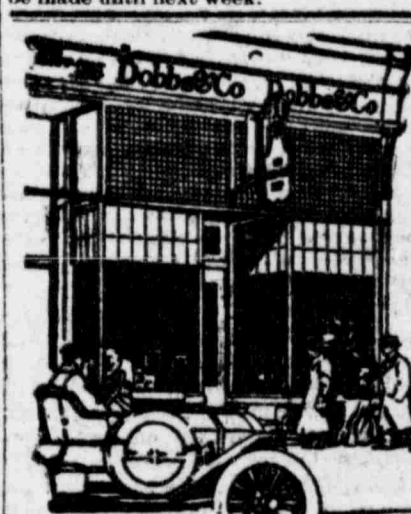
No attempt was made to provide a bondsman for Tobin when he was arrested in Hoboken on November 2. Thirteen other repeaters were admitted to trial but each and disappeared. Their bonds have been forfeited.

Embassy to Meet Queen Helena's Nurse.

Aboard the North-German liner Prinzess Irene, due here from the Mediterranean on Tuesday, is Constance Gonnert, the nurse of Queen Helena of Italy. The Queen thinks so highly of the nurse that she has instructed a representative of the Italian Embassy at Washington to come here and meet her.

## Aqueduct Bids Opened.

Bids for the construction of the Grassy Sprain aqueduct and the Platt avenue siphon section, near Ardsley, of the new Catskill waterway system were opened yesterday by the Board of Water Supply. Nine bids were submitted, the lowest being that of the Elmore and Hamilton Contracting Company of Albany, whose offer was \$1,465,120. The highest bid, \$1,996,885, was sent in by Pennell, O'Hern & Co. of Yonkers. The award will not be made until next week.



242 FIFTH AVENUE  
THE KNAPP-FELT SHOP

## Hats for Men

The new Derby shown by Dobbs & Co though a departure from conventional lines, is in perfect taste and of unquestioned propriety.

It is made by the Crofut & Knapp Company in both grades of Knapp-Felt, \$6 and \$4.


Silk Hats, Opera Hats, Caps, Canes, Umbrellas and Leather Hat Boxes in an unusual variety of exclusive styles.

Dobbs & Co Orders are a convenient form for Holiday Gifts, combining the pleasant remembrance with an opportunity for personal selection.

Dobbs & Co  
242 FIFTH AVENUE  
between 27th and 28th Streets

## SPECIAL

### Friday, Dec. 17th



## 7 Jewels Waltham \$3.98

Guaranteed Gold Filled Cases

On the above date ONLY I shall offer 800 of these Gold-Filled 7-Jeweled Waltham Watches with my full guarantee at \$3.98 each. No mail or messenger orders filled. This restriction is specifically made in order to protect myself from the Watch Trust, which would only be too glad to buy up the whole lot in order to protect its "price list" and agreement-bound dealers. These Waltham watches are identical the same as used on the big English Railways, a fact that is of itself the best guarantee of the accuracy of their time-keeping qualities. Every one will be sold with the distinct understanding that they purchase money will be refunded if any one of these watches is not duplicated by any American jeweler for less than \$10.00. Since the beginning of my fight against the Watch Trust this is the hardest blow the Combine has received. In intrinsic value this offer is unparalleled. Only one to a purchaser. No dealer or supplier of mail orders filled.

## Specials

Price	Watch	Price
\$70.00	35-Jewel Waltham	\$49.98
\$40.00	25-Jewel Vanguard	\$29.98
\$31.50	21-Jewel Crescent	\$19.98
\$28.50	19-Jewel Waltham	\$17.98
\$18.00	17-Jewel Waltham	\$13.98
\$12.00	15-Jewel Waltham	\$7.98
\$40.00	25-Jewel Veritas	\$29.98
\$31.00	21-Jewel Father	\$19.98
\$27.00	19-Jewel W. W. Max	\$17.98

On this date we will present FREE to every customer a 10-cent Patek Patent watch from being stolen from the pocket. This, in a sense, is almost as valuable as the watch itself.

## FREE

### CHAR